

In the Drawings:

Enclosed herewith under a separate letter to the PTO drafts person are formal drawings. Also enclosed is a marked up Figure 2B showing placement of reference numeral 175.

In the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 5-17 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend Claim 1 as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A method for detecting failures that can result from multiple failure modes in an analyzer for conducting clinical assays comprising:
- a) providing an analyzer for conducting clinical assays that can have multiple failure modes,
 - b) identifying potential errors that can result in assay failures in the analyzer
 - c) identifying potential sources of the potential errors identified in b),
 - d) determining the probability that an error source so identified will result in a clinically significant error,
 - e) identifying potential error detection measures corresponding to the source of potential errors,
 - f) selecting and implementing multiple error detection measures for each failure mode based on their probability of reducing errors to an acceptable limit along with a low probability of the false detection of an assay failure.